REMARKS

Claims 1-72 were pending and rejected. Claims 52-54 are canceled and claims 73 and 74 are added are amended by way of this Amendment. No new matter is believed to be added. All claims 1-51 and 55-74, as amended, are believed to be allowable over the references cited by the Examiner as discussed below. Accordingly, a Notice of Allowance for the present application is respectfully requested.

Objection to the Specification

The Examiner objected to the Abstract because it exceeds 150 words. The Abstract is amended to contain 150 words or less.

Withdrawal of the objection to the specification is respectfully requested.

Objections to the Claims

The Examiner objected to claims 31, 35, 39 and 44 because of informalities. Claims 31, 35, 39 and 44 are amended to correct the informalities.

Withdrawal of the objection to claims 31, 35, 39 and 44 is respectfully requested.

Rejection Under 35 U.S.C. §112, Second Paragraph

Claims 1-7, 10, 12, 19, 47, 54, 56, 58, 59, 61, 61, 62, 66, and 70 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. §112, second paragraph as being indefinite. Amendments to these claims such as to correct obvious typographical errors are made to clarify the subject matter of the invention.

Withdrawal of the rejection of the claims under 35 U.S.C. §112, second paragraph is respectfully requested.

Rejection of Claims Under 35 U.S.C. §103(a)

Claims 1-6, 8-31, 37-39, 41-51, 67-70, and 72 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Brint in view of Wong.

As amended, independent claim 1 generally recites a headset with a memory for storing a preference setting that can be repeatedly modified and stored during use of the headset and a host adapter selectively coupled to the headset and capable of accessing the memory in order to read the preference setting. One key advantage of configuring memory for storing preference settings in the headset itself and for selectively coupling to the host adapter is to allow a user to couple the headset to *any* host adapter without losing the user's stored preferences (as they are stored in the headset itself) and may be particularly suited for use in a call center. Each of independent claims 8, 15, 22, 41, 45, 49, and 67, as amended, recites an apparatus or a method with similar

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elements or features. As discussed below, neither Brink nor Wong, either alone or in combination, discloses nor renders obvious the inventions as claimed.

Brint discloses a universal interface module 10 that interfaces with many different *types* of headsets 12. Each type of headset 12 corresponds to a particular pin configuration of the headset connector 20. Thus, different types of headsets have different pin configurations. Connecting or plugging the headset connector 20 into the host adapter 10 completes a circuit in the host adapter 10 so that the host adapter 10 will behave in a manner corresponding to the particular *type* of headset 12. For example, Brint discloses that an electrical contact pin element 32 connects to an electrical potential and completes a wired interconnection of the headset to the interface to provide the programming signal for the interface module 10. (See, for example, col. 1, lines 46-48; claims 8 and 10). In other words, the interface module 10 is passively "programmed" for a particular type of headset depending on the specific pin configuration of the connecter 12. Brint is only concerned with modifying the interface module 10 for different *types* of headsets and not concerned with variations among headsets of the *same type*.

Once the interface module 10 of Brint is "programmed" using the electrical contact pins 32 for the particular *type* of headset, no further adjustments to the interface module 10 using the connector 20 are made nor should they be made. The physical configuration of the electrical contact pin elements 32 of the connector 20 is *designed into* and thus predefined and permanently fixed for each type of headset 12, i.e., not subject to modification. Indeed, if the physical configuration of the pins 32 were modified, the headset 12 may not work or may not work properly. Thus Brint fails to disclose or suggest a headset with memory, much less one that can store a preference setting that can be *repeatedly modified and stored during use of the headset*, as recited in the claims.

Wong discloses a radio communication device 110 interfacing with multiple audio accessories 120, 130. Each of the multiple audio accessories stores equalizer parameters that correspond to the potential impact that the accessory has on the processing of audio signals by the radio 110 (col. 2, lines 57-60). Wong addresses the issue of coupling *unanticipated* accessories or *unanticipated combinations* of accessories to the radio device 110 (col. 1, lines 38-42) such that the radio device 110 need not have to fully anticipate all variations and combinations of accessories which may have an impact thereon (col. 4, line 64-col. 5, line 1; see also col. 1, lines 22-27). In other words, Wong neither discloses nor suggests adjusting the equalizer parameters once the desired equalizer parameters have been stored to the accessory memory. As is evident, Wong fails to disclose or suggest a headset with a memory for storing a preference setting that can be *repeatedly modified and stored during use of the headset*, as recited in the claims at issue.

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Thus neither Brint nor Wong, alone or in combination, discloses or suggests a headset with a memory for storing a preference setting that can be *repeatedly modified and stored during use* of the headset and a *host adapter selectively coupled* to the headset and capable of accessing the memory in order to read the preference setting, as recited in independent claim 1.

Furthermore there is a lack of motivation or suggestion to incorporate the memory and the stored preference settings of Wong into the headset of Brint. Brint is not concerned with the coupling of unanticipated accessories, much less unanticipated *combinations* of accessories. Brint's interface module is configured for specific and known types of headsets. Thus the number of and the possible types of headsets that can connect to the interface module in Brint are *precisely and fully* anticipated by Brint's interface module 10. For example, Brint expressly describes that a 4-pin connector 20 can program the interface module 10 for up to 16 possible types of headset (Brint, col. 4, lines 2-8). In Brint, the interface module 10 is not designed to function with any type of headset that is not anticipated.

It is further noted that the Roach (USPN 6,453,042) does not make up for the deficiencies of Brint in view of Wong. Roach discloses a conventional headset base unit in cooperation with a headset. The base unit includes a memory to store user preferences. However, Roach does not disclose or suggest that the memory be incorporated into the headset and be selectively coupled to a host adapter. Rather, the memory and the host adapter are integrated into the conventional base unit as a single, inseparable unit. As noted above, one key advantage of configuring the headset with memory (as recited in claim 1 for example) to store preference settings and to be selectively coupled the host adapter is to allow a user to couple the headset to *any* host adapter without losing the user's stored preferences (as they are stored in the headset itself) and may be particularly suited for use in a call center.

Withdrawal of the rejection of claims 1-6, 8-31, 37-39, 41-51, 67-70, and 72 under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) is respectfully requested.

Claims 32-35 and 37-39 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Brint in view of Wong and Hendrix. As discussed above, Brint in view of Wong fails to disclose or suggest a headset with a memory for storing a performance characteristic that can be *repeatedly modified and stored during use* of the headset and a host adapter *selectively coupled* to the memory and capable of accessing the memory in order to read the preference setting, as generally recited in independent claim 32.

Thus, withdrawal of the rejection of independent claim 32 and claims 33-35 and 37-39 dependent therefrom under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) is respectfully requested.

Claims 55 and 56 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Mauney in view of Widin and Gurne. Independent claim 55 generally recites storing a service date and type of service performed on the headset in the memory device, reading the service date and type of service from the memory by a host adapter *in selective communication* with the headset memory device, and repeating the storing and reading upon modification of the service date and type of service performed stored in the memory device.

In contrast, Mauney, either alone or in combination with Widin and Gurne fails to discloses such elements. Mauney discloses a conventional headset base unit in cooperation with a headset. However, Mauney does not disclose or suggest that the memory be incorporated into the headset and be selectively coupled to a host adapter. Rather, the memory and the host adapter are integrated into the conventional base unit as a single, inseparable unit. As noted above, one key advantage of configuring the headset with memory (as generally recited in claim 55 for example) to be selectively coupled the host adapter is to allow a user to couple the headset to *any* host adapter without losing the data stored in the memory (as they are stored in the headset itself) and may be particularly suited for use in a call center.

Thus, withdrawal of the rejection of claims 55 and 56 under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) is respectfully requested.

Claim 57 stands rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Roach. Independent claim 57 generally recites storing a first and a second set of user defined preferences in a headset memory device configured to be *selectively coupled* to the host adapter capable of accessing the memory, retrieving and setting the host adapter using the first set of preferences from the memory when the headset is coupled to the host adapter and used by the first user, and retrieving and setting the host adapter using the second set of preferences when the headset is coupled to the host adapter and used by the second user.

In contrast, Roach fails to discloses such elements of the claimed invention. Roach discloses a conventional headset base unit in cooperation with a headset but does not disclose or suggest that the memory be incorporated into the headset and be selectively coupled to a host adapter. Rather, the memory and the host adapter are integrated into the conventional base unit as a single, inseparable unit. As noted above, one key advantage of configuring the headset with memory (as generally recited in claim 57 for example) to be selectively coupled the host adapter is to allow a user to couple the headset to *any* host adapter without losing the data stored in the memory (as they are stored in the headset itself) and may be particularly suited for use in a call center. Furthermore, Roach fails to disclose that the memory stored user defined preferences for multiple users. Upon recalibration of the headset, the first set of preferences would be overwritten.

Thus, withdrawal of the rejection of claim 57 under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) is respectfully requested.

Claims 57-66 and 71 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Brint in view of Roach and Liebenow. Each of independent claims 57 and 63 recites a method or apparatus with a headset memory device selectively coupled on a host adapter for storing multiple sets of user defined preferences and setting the host adapter to a particular set of user defined preferences depending upon the headset being used by which user.

However, similar to the reasons set forth above, neither Brint nor Roach, alone or in combination, discloses or suggests such elements, namely, headset memory device selectively coupled to a host adapter for storing multiple sets of user defined preferences and setting the host adapter to a particular set of user defined preferences depending upon which user is using the headset. As Liebenow also fails to disclose such elements, the addition of Liebenow does not make up for the deficiencies of the combination of Brint in view of Roach.

Thus, withdrawal of the rejection of claims 57-66 and 71 under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) is respectfully requested.
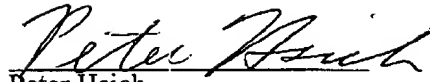
Dependent claims 7, 36, 40 stand variously rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a). However, because the various independent claims from which these claims depend are believed to be allowable over the cited references, these dependent claims are believed to be allowable for at least the same or similar reasons as set forth above. Withdrawal of the rejections is respectfully requested.

CONCLUSION

Applicants believe that all pending claims are allowable and respectfully request a Notice of Allowance for this application from the Examiner. Should the Examiner believe that a telephone conference would expedite the prosecution of this application, the undersigned can be reached at the telephone number set out below.

In the unlikely event that the transmittal letter accompanying this document is separated from this document and the Patent Office determines that an Extension of Time under 37 CFR 1.136 and/or any other relief is required, Applicant hereby petitions for any required relief including Extensions of Time and/or any other relief and authorizes the Commissioner to charge the cost of such petitions and/or other fees due in connection with the filing of this document to Deposit Account No. 50-2315 (Order No. 01-3569).

Respectfully submitted,

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